ALCOHOL POLICY AND PUBLIC HEALTH: WHAT WORKS?

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HOPE

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EVIDENCE

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Context: alcohol in the world

- Alcohol is the 5th leading cause of death and disabilty worldwide
- It is the leading cause of death and disability for males aged 15-24 in every region except the Eastern Mediterranean, as well as for females 15-24 in the Americas and the wealthy countries
- The alcohol industry is a \$1 trillion business worldwide

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Excessive Drinking Has a Huge Public Health Impact in the United States

- 88,000 deaths every year
- · 2.5 million Years of Potential Life Lost every year
- 4th leading preventable cause of death
- Cost
 - \$223.5 billion in economic costs (2006) or \sim \$1.90/drink
 - MD: \$4.1 billion
 - \$1.96 per drink
 - \$94.2 billion (42%) paid by government or ~\$0.80/drink

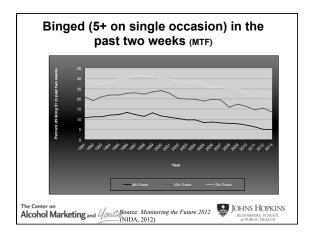
The Cent Acopol Related Disease Impact (ARDI); available at: www.cdc.gov/alcoho
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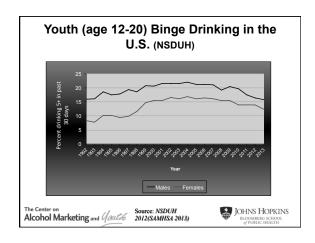


Youth drinking in the U.S.

- Alcohol use is the number one drug problem among young people.
- In 2013, 8.7 million U.S. young people ages 12-20 reported drinking in the past month, and 5.4 million reported binge drinking. (NSDUH)
- Every day, 4,500 kids under age 16 start drinking.
- The earlier young people begin drinking, the worse the consequences are likely to be.







Summary

- Youth binge drinking and its consequences continue at high levels
- Progress in high school is not matched by progress with college students and with females

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Beverage preference of 12th grade female binge drinkers

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Consequences of youth drinking

- Young people who begin drinking before age 15 are five times more likely to develop alcohol problems later in life than those who wait until they are 21. (OSG, 2007)
- · They are:
 - Four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence (Grant and Dawson 1997)
 - Six times more likely to be in a physical fight after drinking;
 - Greater than six times more likely to be in a motor vehicle crash because of drinking:
 - Almost five times more likely to suffer from other unintentional injuries after drinking (Hingson et al. 2009).
- Every year approximately 5,000 people under age 21 die from alcoholrelated injuries resulting from underage drinking. (OSG, 2007)

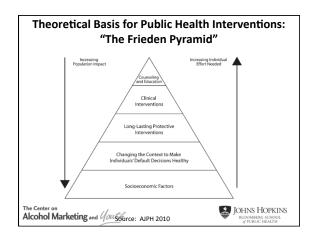
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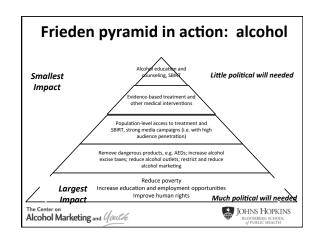


Are we doing "what works"?

- Bloomberg School motto: "Saving lives millions at a time."
- Theoretical basis best of public health practice
- Public health reviews of the alcohol-specific evidence
 - CDC
 - WHO
- Evidence points to "environmental" strategies things that condition drinkers' choice to drink







What works: reviews of the U.S. and global research literature

CDC Guide to Community Preventive Services



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Community Guide Recommendations for Preventing Excessive Drinking

CDC community guide process:

- Conduct systematic reviews:
- Identify all relevant studies
- Assess their quality
- Summarize the evidence
- · Develop recommendations
- Publish systematic reviews and recommendations in peer-reviewed literature

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"Insufficient evidence" according to CDC

- School-based social norming campaigns
- · Designated driver programs
- School-based peer organizing interventions
- · Responsible beverage service training
- · Overservice law enforcement initiatives

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What does not work, at least in isolation:

- The impact of education and persuasion programs tends to be small at best.
- When positive effects are found, they do not persist.
- Among the hundreds of studies, only a few show lasting effects (after 3 years) (Foxcroft et al. 2003).
- Media campaigns IOM/NRC study doubtful that youthoriented campaign can work, although adult-oriented campaign might.
- Casswell et al. in NZ media campaigns can soften the ground for more effective policies



Community Guide Recommendations for Preventing Excessive Drinking

- Recommendations
 - Increase alcohol taxes
 - Regulate alcohol outlet density
 - Improve dram shop (commercial host) liability
 - Avoid privatization of alcohol sales
 - Maintain limits on days of sale
 - Maintain limits on hours of sale
 - Enhance enforcement of laws prohibiting alcohol sales to minors
 - Use electronic SBI (for adults)

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What works: periodic review of global research literature



- Jointly published by WHO and Oxford University Press
- Result of reviews by 15 of the most prominent scholars globally in alcohol research
- 2nd edition published in 2010

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17 strategies with at least 2 + across the board

- Alcohol taxes
- Ban on sales
- Minimum age of purchase laws
- Rationing
- Government monopolies
- Restrictions on hours/days of sale
- Reductions in number of outlets
- Enhanced enforcement of onpremise laws and regulations
- Community action projects
- Sobriety checkpoints
- Lower BAC limits
- Administrative license
- suspension

 Graduated licensing
- Legal restrictions on exposure
- to marketing
- Brief interventions
- Mutual self-help
- Talk therapies

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A global context: WHO's Global Strategy to Reduce Alcohol-Related Harm

- (a) leadership, awareness and commitment
- (b) health services' response
- (c) community action
- (d) drink-driving policies and countermeasures
- (e) availability of alcohol
- (f) marketing of alcoholic beverages
- (g) pricing policies
- (h) reducing the negative consequences of drinking and alcohol intoxication
- (i) reducing the public health impact of illicit alcohol and informally produced alcohol
- (j) monitoring and surveillance.

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Alcohol taxes

- "...among the most cost-effective ways for a government to reduce alcohol-related harm." (Babor et al. 2010)
- 1911-1917 alcohol taxes provided 1/3 of U.S. tax revenues
- Unknown history of U.S. prohibition alcohol tax revenues had to be replaced, and were, by extremely unpopular income taxes

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"Sugar, rum, and tobacco, are commodities which are no where necessaries of life, which are become objects of almost universal consumption, and which are therefore extremely proper subjects of taxation.

Adam Smith, An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of The Wealth of Nations, 1776



Price and taxation

Alcohol taxes reduce alcohol consumption

- Review of 112 studies containing 1,003 estimates of effects of price on alcohol consumption and problems
- Consumption declines for general population, as well as young people and heavy drinkers (Wagenaar et al. 2009)

Evidence suggests that:

- People increase their drinking when prices are lowered, and decrease their consumption when prices rise.
- Adolescents and problem drinkers are no exception to this rule.
- Increased alcoholic beverage taxes and prices are related to reductions in alcohol-related problems.

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Health effects of alcohol taxes: specific studies

- Reduce:
 - Liver cirrhosis
 - Delirium tremens
 - Male suicideCriminality
 - Hospitalizations
 - Alcohol-related disease mortality
 - Workplace injuries
 - STDs
 - IPV
 - Rape
 - Robbery
 - Severe violence towards children
- No impact on possible health benefits among moderate drinkers

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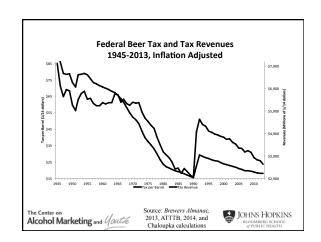


Public health goals: alcohol taxation

- Equalize based on alcohol content
- Index for inflation
- Set minimum price

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Federal tax rates and inflation

	1951 rate	Current rate (1991)	Adjusted for inflation (since 1951)
Beer	\$9 / barrel	\$18 / barrel	\$76.23
Spirits	\$10.50 / proof gallon	\$12.50 / proof gallon	\$88.94
Wine	\$.17 / gallon	\$1.07 / gallon	\$1.44

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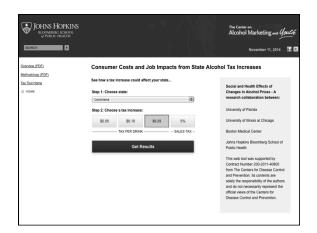
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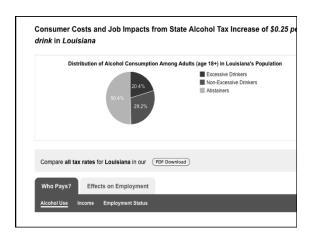
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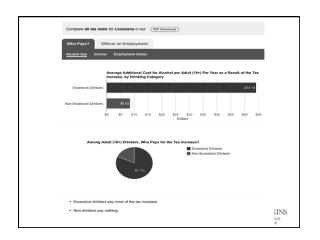
On-line tax tool

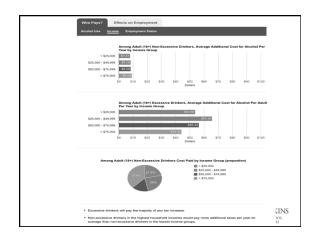
• www.camy.org/action/taxes/taxtool

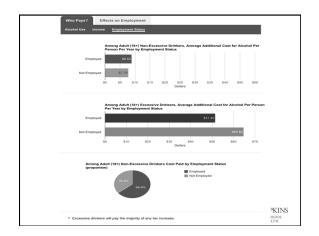


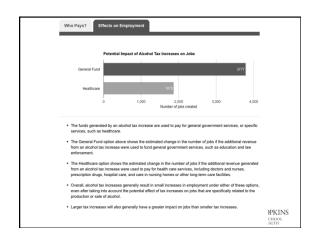










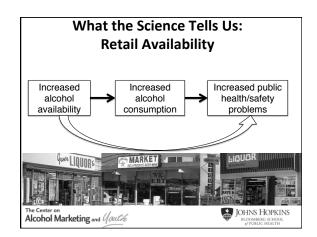


PRICE

- · Other price interventions:
 - Eliminate happy hours, ladies' nights, other discounting
 - O' Mara et al. 2009: a 10-cent increase in cost per gram of ethanol at on-premise establishments was associated with a 30% reduction in the risk of exiting an establishment intoxicated
 - Eliminate bulk discounts such as sales in pitchers
 - Establish or raise retail license fees to fund enforcement, prevention, education and surveillance
 - Minimum pricing

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When the # of alcohol outlets increases...



- violence/crime¹
- sexually transmitted infections²
- noise3
- injuries4
- property damage⁵





Alcohol Marketing and Journal al. 1998; 2. Scribner et al. 2007; 4. Holder et al. 2000; 5. Donnelly et al. 2006



Alcohol outlet density and underage drinking

- Paschall et al. (2012-50 California cities)
 - Adolescent alcohol use and heavy drinking appear to be influenced by enforcement of underage drinking laws, alcohol outlet density, and adult alcohol use.
- Chen et al. (2009 California)
 - Zip code alcohol outlet density significantly and positively related to likelihood and frequency of getting alcohol
- Treno et al. (2003 Oregon)
 - Alcohol outlet density associated with both youth drinking and driving and riding with drinking drivers, especially for . younger and female
- Other studies in university neighborhoods, New Zealand,

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Outlet density: action steps

- · Licensing reform
- · Planning and zoning reform
 - Oakland
 - Omaha
 - Baltimore
- · Takes public health into arenas with which many are unfamiliar







Commercial Host (Dram Shop) Liability

- Alcohol retailers can be held liable for harms caused by intoxicated or underage patrons
- · Laws vary in scope and evidence requirements
- · Can help reduce alcohol-related harms, including motor vehicle crash deaths, homicide, and alcohol-related medical conditions
 - Alcohol-related motor vehicle crash deaths reduced by 6%



Other availability restrictions

- Avoid privatization of alcohol sales
- Maintain limits on days of sale
- Maintain limits on hours of sale
- Enhance enforcement of laws prohibiting alcohol sales to minors
- Social host liability
 - Newer strategy, less evidence
 - · Preliminary results promising:
 - One study found 9% drop in DUI fatality rate among 18-20 year-olds (DIII) 2010)
 - Another, looking at SHOs in 50 California cities, found that those with SHOs had reduced teen drinking at parties (Paschall et al. 2014)

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Regulating Alcohol Availability Through Minimum Legal Purchase Age (MPLA)

- Principal source of evidence is U.S. studies
 - Numerous reviews of multiple studies have concluded 21 has been effective in saving young lives.
 - CDC 49 studies reviewed, including studies using panel data: "...changes in the MLDA result in changes of roughly 10% to 16% in alcohol-related crash outcomes for the targeted age groups."
 - Wagenaar and Toomey (2002) review of 241 studies: "preponderance of evidence indicates there is an inverse relationship between the MLDA and two outcome measures: alcohol consumption and traffic crashes."

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Alcohol marketing

- Modern alcoholic beverages are of their essence marketed beverages
- · Purposes of marketing:
 - Promote brand-switching among existing brands
 - Protect market share from competitors
 - Inform public of new products
 - Attract new users

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Why do young people drink?

- At the state level, highly correlated with adult drinking
- · Price and availability of alcohol
- Religious and cultural factors
- · Exposure to alcohol marketing

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Alcohol Advertising and Youth

- ≥15 longitudinal studies
 - Followed groups of young people over time, monitoring alcohol marketing exposure and drinking behavior
 - Find increased exposure to alcohol advertising and marketing is associated with drinking initiation and increased consumption and greater risk of problems, even after controlling for wide range of other variables



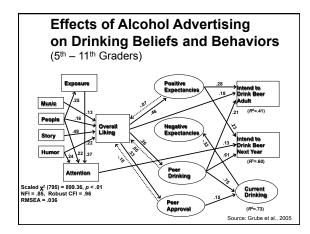


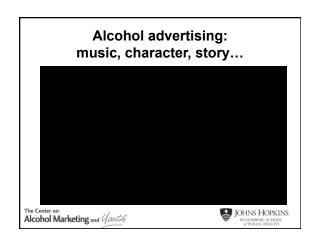


How does advertising affect young people's drinking decisions?

- Youth are drawn particularly to elements of music, characters, story and humor.
- · Young people who liked the ads believed that:
 - positive consequences of drinking were more likely
 - their peers drink more frequently
 - their peers approve more of drinking
- These beliefs interact to produce greater likelihood of drinking, or of intention to drink within the next year.
- Causal arrows all in one direction that is, positive expectancies do not predict greater liking of ads; assumptions of peer drinking do not predict greater liking of ads.

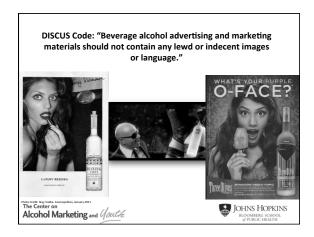




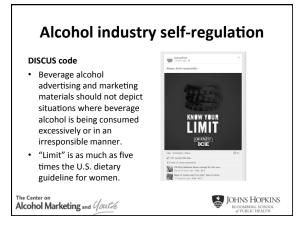














Self-regulation in the U.S. Alcohol Industry · Unlike content, placement can be measured By 2003, the beer, wine, and distilled spirits industries had all agreed to stop advertising in media venues where >30% of the audience was <21 years old Updated for the 2010 census - currently 28.4% Covers everyone under 21 Magazines only measured 12 and up, radio 6 and up, TV 2 and up Call for a 15% youth audience maximum Supported by National Research Council, Institute of Medicine, and 24 state and terrritorial attorney generals 12–20 year-olds are the group most at risk of underage drinking They are <15% of the population The 30% standard allows them to be exposed to alcohol marketing at more than double the rate of the rest of the population The Center on Alcohol Marketing and Youth JOHNS HOPKINS

Industry self-regulation: Actual placement data - Compared to adults 21+, youth ages 12-20 saw per capita 7% more beer ads, 11% more alcopop ads, 82% fewer wine ads Radio 2009: - 32% of ads on programming with disproportionately youthful · Television: - In 2012, 19% of 350,868 ads aired at times when youth 12-20 percapita exposure exceeded that of adults 21+ - In local TV markets in 2010, nearly 1 in 4 ads on programs popular among youth violate industry's standard. - Average exposure for 12-20s in 2009: 366 ads JOHNS HOPKINS

Limitations of Monitoring Digital Media

- 3rd-party data sources are not available
- Much of digital alcohol marketing is spread user-to-user ("viral")
- Young people are far ahead of adults in their use of and ease with digital media
- Alcohol companies are among the earliest adopters of new media marketing technologies

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Alcohol industry in social media

- Difficult to assess youth exposure
- · Industry extremely active:
 - Diageo, Heineken have special deals with Facebook giving them early access to new tools
 - As of 2012, 1017 alcohol company-sponsored Facebook pages
 - Diageo: Sent 950 of its marketing staff to FB "boot camp" in 2012; estimates that FB ads and promotions for Smirnoff and Baileys increased sales of those brands by 20%

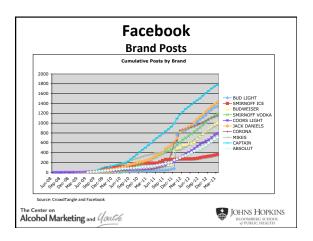
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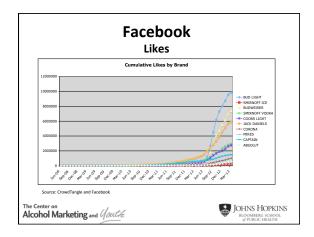


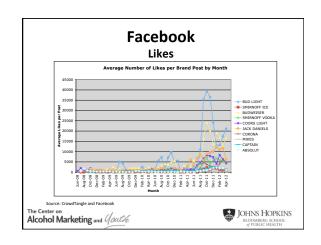
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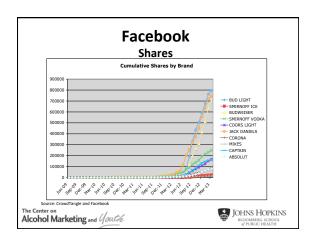


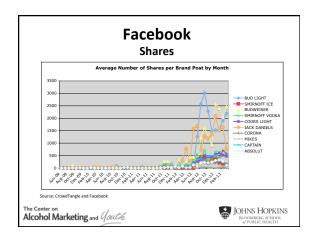


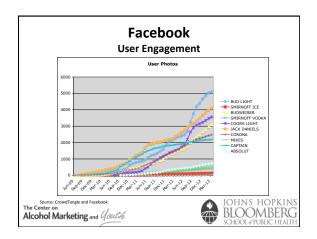














Industry self-regulation: summary

- Self-regulation of content is subjective and largely unenforceable
- Self-regulation of placement is not protective of youth
 - Youth are still seeing disproportionate amounts of alcohol advertising, even when the industry meets its self-regulatory standards

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The importance of brands

- · Alcohol marketing is branded.
- Different products or brands clearly target different audiences
- Half or more of youth exposure to alcohol advertising (impressions) comes from less than 10% of brands
- Putting all brands together can wash out effects on young people
 - Diageo: Smirnoff Ice; Johnnie Walker; Ciroc
 - AB/Inbev: Bud Light; Tilt; Beck's
 - Pernod Ricard: Absolut; Chivas; Malibu

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2012 Study of Youth Alcohol Consumption and Marketing Exposure by Brand

- First-ever national study of youth alcohol consumption by brand
- Internet-based survey of 1,031 young people ages 13-20
- Asked specifically about 898 brands
- Also collected wide range of other data to enable controlling for other variables

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Results Top 10 youth brands by gender

Rank	Male (%)	Female (%)	
1	Bud Light (28.1)	Bud Light (27.7)	
2	Budweiser (17.0)	Smirnoff Malt Beverages (22.7)	
3	Jack Daniels Whiskeys (14.2)	Mikes (14.4)	
4	Coors Light (13.7)	Coors Light (13.7) Smirnoff Vodkas (13.3)	
5	Heineken (13.2)	Bud (12.2)	
6	Captain Morgan Rums (13.1) Coors Light (11.7)		
7	Smirnoff Vodkas (12.2) Absolut Vodkas (11.3)		
8	Smirnoff Malt Beverages (11.6) Corona Extra (11.2)		
9	Corona Extra (11.3)	Bacardi Malt Beverages (10.3)	
10	Blue Moon (10.2)	Jose Cuervo Tequilas (9.5)	

The Center on Siegel et al., J Substance Alcohol Marketing and Jouth Use, 2014



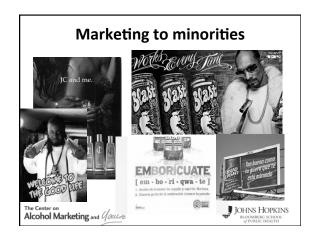
RESULTS: Top 10 Youth Brands By Race/Ethnicity

Non-Hispanic White	Black (%)	Hispanic (%)
Bud Light (26.6%)	Hennessy Cognacs (30.2%)	Bud Light (38.2%)
Coors Light (15.0%)	Smirnoff Malt Beverages (25.7%)	Corona Extra (21.2%)
Budweiser (14.5%)	Ciroc (21.4%)	Smirnoff Malt Beverages (21.1%)
Smirnoff Malt Beverages (13.7%)	Heineken (20.3%)	Budweiser (14.7%)
Smirnoff Vodkas (12.4%)	Bud Light (19.3%)	Heineken (14.6%)
Jack Daniels Whiskeys (11.9%)	1800 Tequilas (18.4%)	Smirnoff Vodkas (13.6%)
Captain Morgan Rums (11.7%)	Budweiser (17.3%)	Bacardi Malt Beverages (13.2%)
Mike's (10.3%)	Seagram's Gins (14.8%)	Jose Cuervo Tequilas (13.1%)
Absolut Vodkas (10.0%)	Jack Daniels Whiskeys (14.7%)	Bacardi Rums (10.1%)
Blue Moon	Mike's (13.5%)	Coors Light (10.1%)

Compared to other youth, African-American and Hispanic youth receive greater exposure to alcohol advertising.

Alcohol Marketing and Youth Siegel et al., J Substance Use, 2014





Common arguments against the influence of advertising on youth drinking

- · "Kids drink what adults are drinking"
- · Survey found several brands much more commonly consumed by youth than by adults: Corona Extra Light (9.3 times more popular)
 - Bacardi Malt Beverages (8.0 times)
 - Smirnoff Malt Beverages (6.7 times)
 - Mike's (4.4 times)
 - Jack Daniel's Cocktails (43.8 times)
 - Malibu Rums (2.6 times)
 - Natural Ice (2.3 times)

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Common arguments against the influence of advertising on youth drinking

- "Kids drink whatever is cheapest"
 - Survey found is a general relationship between lower price and youth brand choice BUT
 - The most commonly consumed brands are not the cheapest
 - Only one of the top 25 youth brands (Keystone Light) is among the 88 cheapest brands

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Common arguments against the influence of advertising on youth drinking

- · "Since kids report they drink what others give them, advertising doesn't matter.
 - Survey found that regardless of source of alcohol, youth brand preferences are consistent
 - Nine of the top 10 youth brands were even more popular among youth who made their own brand
 - 7 of top 15 youth brands repeatedly showing up in
 - Smirnoff Malt Beverages, Jack Daniel's Whiskey, Mike's, Absolut Vodkas, Heineken, Bacardi Malt Beverages, and Malibu Rums

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Greater exposure associated with consumption: Magazines

- For 18-20 year old males and females, brands which delivered the most ad exposure to them were also often the most popular brands
 - Males: 11 of top 25 brands exposed 18-20 yearolds more than any other group
 - Females: 16 of the top 25 brands exposed 18-20 year-olds more than any other group

The Center on Alcohol Marketing and Youth Ross et al., JSAD 2014



Greater ad exposure predicts youth alcohol consumption by brand

- · Television: Youth were three times more likely to consume a brand if exposed to its television advertising
- · Analysis controlled for:
 - Demographic characteristics
 - Magnitude of alcohol consumption
 - Parental drinking
 - Risk-taking behavior
 - Media use patterns
 - Autonomy of brand choice
 - Brand-specific prices
 - Overall brand market share

Alcohol Marketing and Youth Ross et al., ACER 2014



Where We Are: The Evidence

- · Kids are not drinking the same brands as adults
- · Kids are not drinking the cheapest brands
- · Kids are not drinking the brands easiest for them to
- · Exposure to alcohol marketing is associated with youth drinking in longitudinal studies, and in brand research
- · Higher levels of engagement with marketing are associated with greater levels of youth drinking
- Every year, 4300 young people under 21 die because of alcohol use



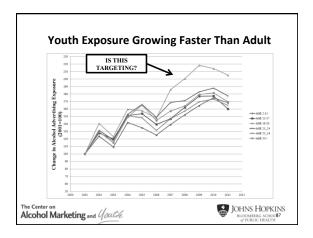


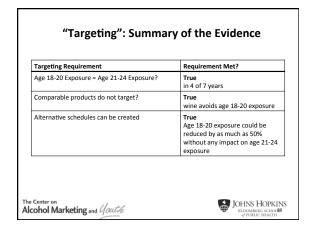
Does the industry "target" youth?

- Magazine study:
 - The ratio of the probability of a youth alcoholic beverage type advertising in a magazine to that of an adult type advertising in a magazine increased from 1.5 to 4.6 as youth readership increased from 0% to 40%.
 - Thus in magazines with highest youth readerships, youth alcoholic beverage types were more than four times more likely to advertise than adult alcoholic beverage types (rong et al., Journal of Addoiscent Realth 2009)
- · Cable television study:
 - Census of 608,591 advertisements on cable television, 2001 to 2006
 - each one-point increase in the percentage of the audience that was adolescent was associated with more beer (+7%), spirits (+15%), and alcopop (+22%) adds per viewer-hour, but fewer wine (-8%) ads pc.oot for all,

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Alcohol industry "responsibility advertising"

- · A "mixed message."
- From 2001 to 2009, youth 12-20 were 22 times more likely to see a product ad for alcohol than an alcohol industry "responsibility" ad.



Trends in alcohol marketing

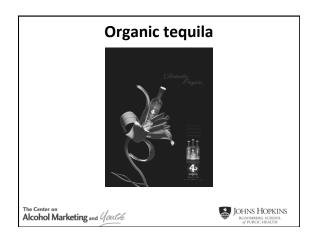
- Like other products, selling alcohol as a health food
 - All natural, organic etc.
 - "Functional" food fitness friendly
 - Diet drink
 - Particularly targeted at women













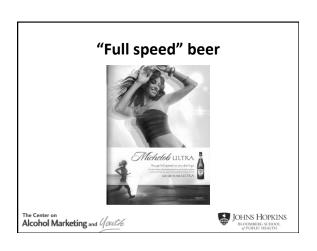












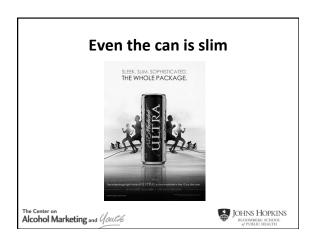


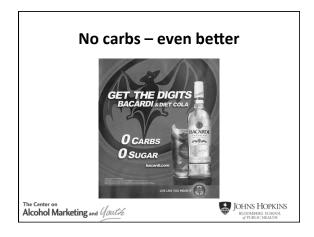


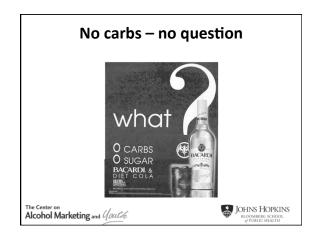












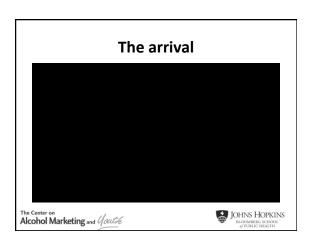
Women and alcohol marketing

- Women's exposure has increased, especially on television
- Men's exposure has increased even more, and much of the advertising is not targeted at women
- Women in alcohol ads are the beverage itself

 they are the goal, and the alcohol

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Been whipped lately?



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& PUBLIC HEALTH

Effects of images of women in alcohol ads

- Researchers in San Jose, CA looked at density of alcohol ads featuring Latinas in their city
- · Controlled for:
 - Ethnic composition of the block group where victimization occurred
 - Socioeconomic characteristics of the area
 - Population and residential stability
 - Race- and gender-specific measures of poverty and unemployment
 - Alcohol availability (density of outlets)
- After controlling for all these other variables, found that density of ads featuring Latina models had significant effect on levels of sexual violence among Latinas and non-Latina females
- Researchers' conclusion: "In general the results of these analyses are supportive of the notion that advertising content plays a detectable role in sexual violence."



Reducing Youth Exposure to Alcohol Marketing

- Collect and report alcohol company marketing expenditures annually (as done for tobacco since 1967)
- Tighten age verification ("age-gating") on digital media sites
- Develop "no-buy" lists of programs and other venues where young people are likely to be overexposed to alcohol advertising (1999 FTC recommendation)
- Hold companies responsible for "user-generated content" on their social media pages
 - Facebook: All branded pages are advertisements
 - Australian co-regulatory board companies are liable for ALL statements and other content on their social media pages, no matter what the source of that content.

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Moving towards a stronger standard

- Beam Global Spirits (just bought by Suntory) case study
 - Beam adopts tighter standard in 2007
 - 25% rather than 30%, plus 15% annual aggregate average by medium by brand
 - Seventeen of 21 brands met new goal in magazines, six brands made progress towards it on television
 - · Half of Beam brands met the 85% adult composition goal.
 - . Beam did not pay a cost premium for ads that met its new goal
 - Youth exposure was reduced compared to other distilled spirits brands

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What can states and localities do?

- State and local entities are strengthening controls over local alcohol advertising
 - Restricting outdoor alcohol advertising in locations where children are likely to be present: Public transit, festivals, celebrations in public venues, and on billboards
 - Prohibiting outdoor alcohol advertising near schools, public playgrounds, and churches
 - Restricting alcohol advertising on alcohol retail outlet windows and outside areas
 - Prohibiting alcohol advertising on state-owned property, including college campuses

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State-level actions: examples

- In 2004, CAMY produced report on state policy options regarding regulation alcohol advertising and youth – CAMY's most requested report – updated in 2010
- CAMY partners in various states have taken steps to reduce youth exposure to alcohol marketing:

State/City	Action	
Connecticut	Ban on all alcohol signage except at point of purchase at Renschler Field	
Philadelphia	Ban on alcohol advertising on bus shelters	
Ohio	500 foot limit on billboard placements adopted into OLCC administrative rules	
Oregon	Local department stores convinced to remove pro- drinking clothing and paraphernalia	
Somerville, MA	Ban on alcohol billboards within 500 feet of schools etc, combined with grassroots enforcement	
Greater Boston, MA	Ban on alcohol ads on public transit	

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Counter-ads

- Counter-advertising
 - Marketing activity designed to decrease interest in a product
 - Often uses people's familiarity with the product ads to promote recall of the counter advertising message
 - Effective in tobacco control
 - May be effective in reducing youth alcohol use but little evidence and few experiments exist





Counter-ads

- · Successful in tobacco, little used in alcohol
- Continuum, ranging from PSA's to true "counter-advertising"
- IOM calls for many experiments in youthoriented media campaign – none ever funded
- One example Dover Y2Y









Alcohol advertising reform: global

- France has one of the strongest anti-alcohol advertising laws among well-resourced countries
 - No advertising is allowed on television or in cinemas;
 - No sponsorship of cultural or sport events is permitted;
 - The law has been upheld by the European Court of Justice
- Thailand passed a new Alcoholic Beverage Control Act in 2008:
 - Prohibits sales of alcoholic beverages to anyone under 20
 - Bans consumption or sale of alcohol on government premises, schools, hospitals, petrol stations, parks
- Bans alcohol advertising that in any way includes pictures of a product or encourages drinking leaves only "corporate" advertisement and advertising originating outside of Thailand
- Finland banned alcohol advertising in public places, and anything in social media that is designed to encourage user/brand interaction
- Ireland, South Africa considering bans of various kinds

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The message of hope: We can...

- Raise awareness about the role of price in youth drinking
- Reduce physical availability of alcohol, particularly to young people
- · Reduce youth exposure to alcohol marketing
- Maintain and strengthen effective alcohol control systems
- Take on the most effective prevention strategies, and succeed.

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What it takes: Research

- Traditional ("evidence-based")
- Public opinion (polling, focus groups)
- Non-traditional
 - Relationship building
 - -Listening
- · Opposition research

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What it takes: Advocacy

- Skills not often taught as part of public health training
 - Strategic communication
 - Organizing both community and political
 - Legal expertise
- Willingness to be controversial, engage in public debate
- · Commitment to accuracy
- Persistence
- Focus
- Rapid response
- · Message discipline
- · Organizing/relationship building



But isn't this lobbying?

- BIG difference between educating the public and policy makers about effective strategies and...
 - Convincing a legislator to take a position on a specific bill (direct lobbying)
 - Asking someone to contact a legislator to ask them to take a position on a specific bill (grassroots lobbying)
- Section 503
- · Your democratic rights

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Parting thoughts

"I've been absolutely terrified every moment of my life - and I've never let it keep me from doing a single thing I wanted to do."

-- Georgia O' Keeffe

"Hope is like a road in the country; there was never a road, but when many people walk on it, the road comes into existence."

-- Lin Yu Tang

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"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world."

-- Margaret Mead

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TOGETHER, we can make a difference!

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